



INTERCESSIONS IN THE HOLY HOUSE

Offering intercessions in the Holy House as a parish group is an important feature of pilgrimage to Walsingham for many. This devotion can be booked at the Sacristy and your parish leader will tell you the time to gather in the Holy House.

The leader may kneel on the altar step or, if the group is too large, stand outside the Holy House at the window.

The petitions collected from the group are offered under five headings:

- 1. Thanksgivings*
- 2. For the sick*
- 3. For those in need*
- 4. For the departed*
- 5. For the parish and community*

The form given here is intended as an outline and may be used in any way to meet the needs of different groups.

OPENING PRAYERS

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people.

And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be made.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who has taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things,
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The following pattern may be followed for each group of petitions:

- *Brief introduction*
- *Petitions, interspersed with:*
Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

or Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

or Lord, we believe. **Increase our faith.**

or Our Lady of Walsingham. **Pray for us.**

- *Silence*
- *Prayer*

The following prayers may be used at the end of each group of petitions:

THANKSGIVING

O God of love,
make us more thankful for all the boundless mercies of our daily life.
Forgive us that we are so often ungrateful,
complaining or discontented,
taking for granted your greatest gifts:
the blessings of health,
the comforts of home and family life,
the joys of friendship,
and the beauty of the world around us.
Teach us day by day to number our blessings
and to receive each of them as from our Father's hand;
and fill our lives with gratitude, our lips with praise;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FOR THE SICK

Almighty God,
whose Son our Lord Jesus Christ
was made perfect by the things that he suffered:
have compassion on those who are passing through illness and pain.
Uphold their faith, that they may trust and not be afraid;
and give them the comfort and strength of your presence,
for your tender mercy's sake.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FOR THOSE IN NEED

Loving Father,
we pray for all who are any way troubled at this time,
and especially for those known to us.
Give relief to those in pain, friendship to those who are alone,
reassurance to those in doubt or distress;
and may our love be so strong
that seeing need we may never pass by on the other side.
We ask this in Christ's name.
Amen.

FOR THE DEPARTED

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we offer you our praise
for all who have lived and died in the faith of your holy name,
and especially for those we now remember before you
with love and thanksgiving.
Give us grace to be faithful in the days
of our earthly pilgrimage,
that with them we may share the glory of your heavenly kingdom
and be partakers of their joy;
through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
to whom you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and glory for ever and ever,
Amen.

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

FOR THE PARISH & COMMUNITY

Lord of all grace and truth,
who came to dwell among the people in your own town of Nazareth,
we pray that you will give us grace to live in
our local community as salt to purify it,
and as light to reveal your truth.
May we not be ashamed to acknowledge you as our Saviour;
and may we learn so to love and honour all people
that peace and goodwill may prevail among us;
for your name's sake.
Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Prayer of St Bernard

Remember, O most gracious Virgin,
that never was it known that any who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help and sought thy intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence,
we fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, our Mother!
To thee do we come; before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the incarnate Word, despise not our petitions,
but in thy mercy, hear and answer us.

Amen.

Prayer of St John Chrysostom

Almighty God,
you have given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
you will be in the midst of them:
fulfil now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the age to come life everlasting.

Amen.

Let us ask Our Lady of Walsingham to join her prayer with those we have offered,
as we say:

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

**✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**

After intercessions pilgrims are encouraged to make an offering for the work of the Shrine. A basket (available from the Sacristy) may be placed on the altar for this purpose or use the donations boxes outside the Holy House.

Groups are requested to then leave the Holy House in silence.

Please return this booklet at the end of the liturgy.